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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/400,507	09/21/99	CESARE	ST9-99-034

EXAMINER		
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

PTO-90C (Rev.11/00)

1- File Copy

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)
09/400,507	Cesare et al.
Examiner	**Art Unit**
Jean Bolte Fleurantin	2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *three* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.** 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). *3*
18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
20) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-25 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, Paper Number 3, have been fully considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-25 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant admitted prior art ("Related art").

As per claims 1 and 17, Related art substantially teaches method for transforming data in an input table in a database in a server in communication with a client (thus, the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, which is readable as transforming data in an input table in a database in a server in communication with a client) (see page 3, lines 15-17), as claimed comprises accessing a copy of the input table from the database (thus, clause to limit the rows extracted from the source table, which is readable as accessing a copy of the input table from the database) (see page 2, lines 27-28);

transforming, within the server, data in the accessed input table according to each rule specified in the transform command (thus, different transform application programs must be written for each table to transform and for different transform rules applied to the same table, which is readable as transforming, within the server, data in the accessed input table according to each rule specified in the transform command) (see page 3, lines 12-15). But, Related art does not explicitly indicate the step of receiving from the client a transform command indicating an input data table name in the database and at least one rule indicating at least one cell in the input table to transform and a transform operation to perform with respect to the at least one cell. However, Related art implicitly shows the step of the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, after the data is transformed at the client the data must then be transferred to the database server to update the transformed table in the database; which is readable as table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, after the data is transformed at the client the data must then be transferred to the database server to update the transformed table in the database) (see page 3, lines 15-19). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Related art with the step of receiving from the client a transform command indicating an input data table name in the database and at least one rule indicating at least one cell in the input table to transform and a transform operation to perform with respect to the at least one cell. This modification would allow the teachings of Related art to improve the

accuracy and the reliability of the method and system program and data structure for transforming database, and provide an improved technique for transforming data in a database server (see page 1, lines 26-27).

As per claims 2 and 10, Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the client is a client computer that communicates with the server over a network, wherein the transform command is transmitted from the client computer to the server over the network (thus, the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, after the data is transformed at the client the data must then be transferred to the database server to update the transformed table in the database; which is readable as wherein the client is a client computer that communicates with the server over a network, wherein the transform command is transmitted from the client computer to the server over the network) (see page 3, lines 112-19).

As per claims 3 and 11, the limitations of claims 3 and 11 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1 above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

As per claims 4, 12, 18, and 23 Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the transform command rules specify multiple transform operations to perform on at least one cell in the accessed input table (see page 2, lines 27-28), wherein an application of a subsequent transform operation following a previous transform operation on one cell transforms previously transformed data in the cell (thus, data records in a computer database are maintained in tables which are a collection of rows all having the same columns, each column maintains

information on a particular type of data for the data records which comprise rows, data mining is the process of extracting valid and previously unknown information from large databases and using it to make crucial business decisions; which is readable as wherein an application of a subsequent transform operation following a previous transform operation on one cell transforms previously transformed data in the cell) (see pages 1 and 2, lines 27-28 and 12-14).

As per claims 5, 13, and 19 Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, further comprises writing the transformed input table data to the database in the server after performing all transform operations specified in the rules of the transform command against the accessed input table (thus, different transform application programs must be written for each table to transform and for different transform rules applied to the same table; which is readable as writing the transformed input table data to the database in the server after performing all transform operations specified in the rules of the transform command against the accessed input table) (see page 3, lines 12-15).

As per claims 6, 14, 20, and 24 Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, further comprises determining whether the transform command indicates an output table in the database (thus, transformations on the data may be necessary, transformations vary from conversions of one type of data to another; which is readable as determining whether the transform command indicates an output table in the database) (see page 2, lines 13-14);

writing the transformed input table to the output table if the transform command indicates the output table (thus, once the desired database tables have been selected and the data to be

mined has been identified, transformations on the data may be necessary, transformations vary from conversions of one type of data to another; which is readable as writing the transformed input table to the output table if the transform command indicates the output table) (see page 2, lines 12-14);

updating the input table in the database with the transformed input table if the transform command does not indicate one output table (thus, after the data is transformed at the client the data must then be transferred to the database server to update the transformed table in the database, which is readable as updating the input table in the database with the transformed input table if the transform command does not indicate one output table) (see page 3, lines 17-19).

As per claims 7 and 15, Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the client cannot affect the execution of the transform command during the execution of the transform command, whereby the transform command executes in the server independently of the client (thus, the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, which is readable as whereby the transform command executes in the server independently of the client) (see page 3, lines 15-17).

As per claims 8, 16, 21, and 25 Related art substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the transform command further comprises multiple rules, wherein each rule specifies at least one column in the input table and at least one transform operation to perform on each specified column in the input table, wherein at least two rules specify different columns in the

input table and different transform operations to apply to each specified column (thus, different transform application programs must be written for each table to transform and for different transform rules applied to the same table, the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, after the data is transformed at the client the data must then be transferred to the database server to update the transformed table in the database; which is readable as wherein the transform command further comprises multiple rules, wherein each rule specifies at least one column in the input table and at least one transform operation to perform on each specified column in the input table, wherein at least two rules specify different columns in the input table and different transform operations to apply to each specified column) (see page 3, lines 12-19).

As per claim 9, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Related art substantially teaches system for transforming data, comprises a client process (thus, the data in the database table is transferred from the database server to the client to perform the transformation operation on the data at the client, which is readable as a client process) (see page 3, lines 15-17);

a server including a database and an input table in communication with the client process (thus, transformation operations may be performed using client application programs external to the database program that process and transform tables of data records, which is readable as a server including a database and an input table in communication with the client process) (see page 3, lines 6-8);

As per claim 22, in addition to the discussion in claim 1, Related art substantially teaches a memory device including a command for performing a transform operation on a computer database input table, the command comprising an input data table name parameter indicating the input table subject to the transform operation (thus, once the desired database tables have been selected and the data to be mined has been identified transformations on the data may necessary, transformations vary from conversions of one type of data to another, e.g., converting nominal values into numeric ones so that they can be processed by a neural network to definition of new attributes; which is readable as the command comprising an input data table name parameter indicating the input table subject to the transform operation) (see page 2, lines 12-16).

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kiuchi et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,765,167 relates to a data processing apparatus for executing data update processing on that basis of variety of business processing files.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Jean Bolte Fleurantin at (703) 308-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. KIM VU can be reached at **(703) 305-8449.** The FAX phone number is **(703) 305-9731.**

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone is **(703) 305-9600**.

Jean Bolte Fleurantin

September 5, 2001

JBF/

HOSAIN T. ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER